

Release Notes

Vintage 2012 Population Estimates

The Vintage 2012 population estimates reflect improvements in the estimates methodology and data inputs. In summary, improvements include changes in: 1) the estimation of net international migration, 2) the estimation of the distribution of deaths to people age 70 and older by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, and 3) the incorporation of new results from the Count Question Resolution Program into the 2010 population estimates base.

A. Estimation of Net International Migration for the Nation, States, and Counties

1. Estimation of Net Native Migration for the Nation, States, and Counties

The national-level estimate of net native migration is distributed to states and counties by demographic characteristics using information from the American Community Survey (ACS). In Vintage 2011, we applied the age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county distribution of the native-born population in the ACS to the native migration component. For Vintage 2012, native migrants were given the characteristics of the native-born civilian population in the ACS whose residence one year prior to the survey was either in another state or abroad.

2. Estimation of Foreign-born Immigration and Emigration for the Nation, States, and Counties

For Vintage 2012, we estimate foreign-born immigration and foreign-born emigration separately for migration between the United States and Mexico and migration between the United States and “All other countries.”

In both Vintage 2011 and Vintage 2012, the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration is calculated using data from the American Community Survey and information on residence one year prior to the survey. In Vintage 2011, we calculated the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration using information from the ACS on the foreign-born population whose residence one year prior was abroad. For Vintage 2012, we estimated foreign-born immigration from Mexico and “All other countries” separately. We calculated the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration from Mexico using information from the ACS on the foreign-born population whose residence one year prior to the survey was in Mexico. The national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration from “All other countries” is produced using information from the ACS on the foreign-born population whose residence one year prior to the survey was in a country other than Mexico.

In Vintage 2011, the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration was given the age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county distribution of the foreign-born population in the ACS who entered the United States within five years of the survey year. In Vintage 2012, foreign-born immigrants from Mexico are given the

characteristic and geographic distribution of the foreign-born whose place of birth was Mexico that entered the United States within 5 years of the survey year. Immigration from “All other countries” is distributed by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county using characteristics of the foreign-born population whose place of birth was not Mexico who entered the United States within 5 years of the survey year.

In both Vintage 2011 and Vintage 2012, the national-level estimates of foreign-born emigration were produced using a residual method with data from Census 2000 and the ACS. In Vintage 2011, foreign-born emigration was calculated for two period of entry cohorts using information on the foreign-born population in Census 2000 and the ACS. In Vintage 2012, estimates of foreign-born emigration to Mexico are produced by period of entry cohort using information from Census 2000 and the ACS on the population who was born in Mexico. Estimates of foreign-born emigration to “All other countries” are produced by period of entry cohort using information on the population born outside of the United States, outlying areas, and Mexico.

The national-level estimates of foreign-born emigration by period of entry cohort (entered in the past 10 years and entered more than 10 years ago) are distributed by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county using information from the ACS. In Vintage 2011, information from the ACS on the foreign-born population who entered the United States 10 years prior to the survey and the foreign-born population who entered the United States more than 10 years prior to the survey were used to distribute the national-level estimate by demographic and geographic characteristics. For Vintage 2012, the national-level estimate for recent arrivals from Mexico are given the characteristics of the foreign-born population in the ACS whose place of birth was Mexico and entered the United States within the past 10 years. Later arrivals from Mexico are given the characteristics of the foreign-born population in the ACS whose place of birth was Mexico and entered the United States more than 10 years prior to the survey year. Recent and later arrivals from “All other countries” are estimated using the same period of entry restrictions but place of birth includes all countries other than the United States, outlying areas, and Mexico.

B. Estimation of Deaths by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the Nation

In the Vintage 2011 estimates, we estimated the distribution of deaths by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin for the nation using death rates from the Social Security Administration (SSA). Period life tables generated by SSA for 2005, by sex, were used to calculate deaths for single years of age and sex among the population aged 70 years and older to the population being estimated. The same death rates were applied to all race-ethnic groups.

In the Vintage 2012 estimates, national-level death rates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin were developed internally from the Calendar Year 2009 Mortality Microdata File from the National Center for Health Statistics and 2009 intercensal population estimates prepared by the Census Bureau. Life tables for males and females

were produced for five groups: Hispanic, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native, and non-Hispanic Asian and Pacific Islander. Rates from these tables were assigned to 31 race groups by Hispanic origin to calculate deaths for those aged 70 and over.

C. Incorporation of Results from the 2010 Census Count Question Resolution Program

In the Vintage 2012 estimates, the April 1, 2010 Estimates Base Population reflects corrections to 2010 Census counts as a result of the Count Question Resolution (CQR) Program. The Census Bureau established the CQR program, by which state, local, and tribal area elected officials may challenge their jurisdiction's 2010 Census counts. On June 1, 2011, the CQR program began accepting 2010 Census challenge submissions. As of September 25, 2012, the CQR program had accepted challenges for six jurisdictions, increasing the U.S. population by 106 persons. Additional information about the CQR program is available at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/about/cqr.php>.